

**March 18th & 19th, 2005**  
**It's Our 40th Anniversary**  
**SPRING BLOOMING MADNESS SALE**  
**At FAY'S NURSERY, LANDSCAPING & LAWN CARE**  
**on the Old Samson Road, in Elba**

**Flowering Trees** **Bridal Wreath**  
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**Camellias \$1.00 & up** **10" Basket Ferns \$5**  
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**Plum Much More!**

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**On Old Samson Rd., Elba 897-2078**  
**Open: 8:00-5:00 Mon-Sat**  
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## Southern Bone & Joint Specialists

A Continuum of Orthopaedic Excellence

Minimally invasive "small incision" surgery (MIS) has gained popularity in many forms ranging from abdominal surgery to shoulder rotator cuff repair. Recent innovations in surgical technique and instrumentation now allow total joint arthroplasty to be performed through smaller incisions with less tissue dissection as well.

Currently, Drs. Fleming Brooks and Patrick Lett are on the leading edge of this trend performing MIS total hip and knee replacements. Through the use of smaller surgical windows patients are able to recover from surgery much more rapidly with less pain. "Total hip arthroplasty through a minimally invasive approach permits surgery through a much smaller incision and allows us not to disrupt many muscles and tendons that used to be sacrificed" states Dr. Lett. "We have noted a more rapid recovery with less pain and weakness. Hospital stays are shorter, and rehabilitation is easier and less painful."

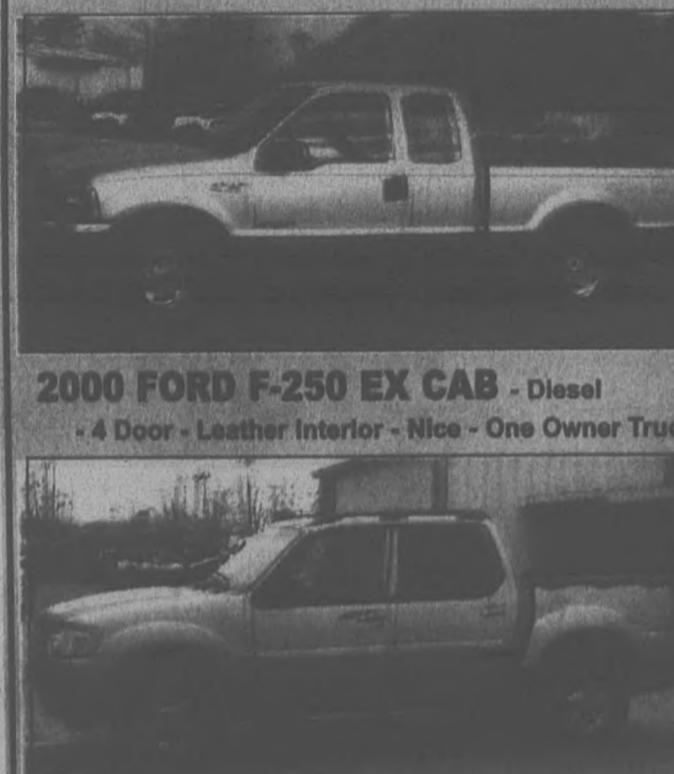
The surgeons are partners in Southern Bone and Joint Specialists based in Enterprise. Adds Dr. Brooks, "I feel that with the expertise that Dr. Lett brings with him from his training at the Mayo Clinic along with the outstanding facilities, anesthesia team and internal medical staff we have here in Enterprise, we offer a level of care that is rare for a city of this size."

Dr. Brooks and Dr. Lett are currently accepting new patients at the Enterprise office and can be reached at (334)308-9797.



404 N. Main St-Enterprise  
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## Project ChildSafe brings free gunlocks to area for distribution

Representatives of Project ChildSafe recently visited the Elba Police Department and delivered free cable-style gunlocks and accompanying educational materials for local citizens.

The National Shooting Sports Foundation has partnered with local law enforcement to distribute more than 250,000 free gun locks in Alabama as part of the national Project ChildSafe (PCS) initiative. PCS reminds gun owners to take steps to prevent a loaded gun from falling into the hands of a child, thereby preventing tragic accidents.

Phase Two of Project ChildSafe is funded by two grants from the U.S. Department of Justice that total \$30 million. These two grants will fund the program from Sept. 1, 2004 through Aug. 31, 2005. Phase One of Project ChildSafe was funded by a \$50 million U.S. Department of Justice grant.

For further information, visit the website at [www.projectchildsafe.org](http://www.projectchildsafe.org).



(Continued from Page One)

section.

"We can't build something out there that's going to cost people's lives," he said.

Citizens continued to insist the plan of the current road will cut New Brockton off from Elba and Enterprise, and once motorists get on the bypass, they will not get off just to come to New Brockton.

Mayor Cole said a lot of the "thru" traffic Griffin spoke of stops at the Big Little Store in the mornings to get coffee, a biscuit, etc. He said the town will lose that business if the current Highway 84 is not left open as an alternate route.

Griffin basically said it comes down to safety. He said the object is to make the road as easy as possible for those who want to travel to and around New Brockton.

"Safety is paramount in what we do," Baldwin said. "Safety is first then we look at everything else."

He said the road plan for the New Brockton area is the safest way the road can be constructed

based on the conditions.

One resident who lives on the Enterprise side of New Brockton said he agrees with the plan because it will make things safer. He said he never even let his children ride the school bus because of the dangers of the current road.

Some continued to express their opposition to taking out small portions of the current road on both ends. They wondered why the road can't simply be left as it is to be an alternate route.

Griffin basically said it comes down to safety. He said the object is to make the road as easy as possible for those who want to travel to and around New Brockton.

"Safety is paramount in what we do," Baldwin said. "Safety is first then we look at everything else."

He said the road plan for the New Brockton area is the safest way the road can be constructed

REPRESENTATIVES OF PROJECT CHILDSAFE recently visited the Elba Police Department and delivered free cable-style gunlocks and accompanying educational materials for local citizens.

"There continues to be a significant demand for firearm safety," said Doug Painter, president of the National Shooting Sports Foundation.

"We are continuing to remind gun owners that their most important responsibility is to know how to safely handle and properly store firearms in the home."

In Coffee County, representatives of Project ChildSafe are pleased that Project ChildSafe is able to meet that demand with millions of additional free firearm safety kits," said Doug Painter, president of the National Shooting Sports Foundation. "We are continuing to remind gun owners that their most important responsibility is to know how to safely handle and properly store firearms in the home."

For further information, visit the website at [www.projectchildsafe.org](http://www.projectchildsafe.org).



# The Elba Clipper

Volume 108, Number 41 50 Cents Elba, Alabama Thursday, March 24, 2005 1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

## Elba chief of police position attracts nine applicants

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Hanchey, Elba; Jackie O. Farmer, Elba; Michael A. Mariano, Andalusia; Michael Hooks, Andalusia; Michael Dean Blair, Elba; Boyd Hartzog, Enterprise; and Dalton Hendrix Francis Jr., Elba.

Among the applicants were four Elba residents, two Enterprise residents, one Kinston resident, one Dothan resident and one Enterprise resident. They were: Donald Wayne Farris, Kinston; Stanley E. DeVane, Dothan; Freddy L.

## Southeast Alabama Community Band set to present concert at Elba High School

For the fifth consecutive year, the Southeast Alabama Community Band will present a concert at the Elba High School auditorium. This year's concert

is planned for Tuesday, March 29, at 7:30 p.m.

The band is conducted by Dr. John M. Long, director emeritus, of Troy University Band.

The community band consists of 50 musicians which include high school band directors, high school band students, city music professors, two medical doctors, business men and retired professional musicians from all over the Southeast Alabama region.

The band will play traditional overtures, Sousa marches and Broadway show tunes and always features outstanding soloists.

This year, the band will feature

David Kirby, a minister and radio personality from WTBG, Troy. He will sing and act as Harold Hill in selections from the "Music Man" arranged by Ralph Ford.

Guest conductors will be

Jeff Gill and Tom Maddon, directors of the

high school and elementary band programs in the Elba City School System.

Then band always plays a

great traditional band overture.

Dr. John M. Long

high school and elementary band programs in the Elba City School System.

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## EDITORIAL

## Most Social Security business can be handled by telephone

You have been in outer space if the case of the Florida woman and her feeding tube removal hasn't bounced off your eyes and ears every time you read a newspaper or listen to radio/television. Terri Schiavo has been in hospitals for the past 15 years, following complications during a surgery procedure. Experts apparently disagree over her degree of brain damage. It has put her husband and her parents on opposing sides of countless state and federal lawsuits. It has apparently also made them bitter enemies, judging by some very harsh charges each side has spit out about the other side. We have no idea what is right in this particular case. We do think that meddling by the U.S. Congress is - well excessive. Also whatever the federal judge in Florida decides following the new federal Schiavo law, he has impressed us thus far. His decision to take the case under advisement rather than rule immediately maintains some sense of being above the political and emotional hype surrounding this case.

Hopefully this tragic case will alert every American citizen on the crucial need for a living will. It puts in writing exactly what an individual wants and expects if and when he or she is no longer in a tragic blow as what hit Terri Schiavo and her family. Such a form can easily address every possible situation, but it surely would have helped Terri's husband, parents and medical doctors. We know from having walked that path - twice, that these written, signed and notarized instructions do not make things easy on the decision maker left behind, but much, much easier. The living will would have also left the U.S. Congress precious hours to work on the other vast problems facing this country. Well, the Florida legislature has spent time on the issue also. Oh, and all the hours spent in filing and refiling lawsuits (and then appealing the decision) for the past 15 years would have been eliminated.

Another troubled teenager has made headlines in one of those tragic high school shootings. This time it was on an Indian reservation in northern Minnesota. News reports were still sketchy at this writing, but at least ten people appear to have died, including the shooter and his grandparents. Every time something like this happens the natural reaction is to urge more security. Reportedly in this case there was a security guard on duty at the small 350 student school, but the boy killed him right off the bat. Why? We will probably never know the answer to that question.

Entirely too many people are just slobs, there is no other way to describe them. Case in point . . . last Saturday the pressure got a bit heavy that the grass at our house needed trimming. Of course the first thing to do was pick up the paper and such. Well if you hadn't seen us picking up that paper on Saturday afternoon you wouldn't have known it by Sunday morning. It was clear that once someone finished their fast food, fries or drink, the wrapper and cup were out the window. Many of them were in our front yard. We witnessed an occupant of one sports car (black) pitch a beer bottle out the window. That one didn't make it to the yard, it shattered on the asphalt.

## Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Mar. 14, 2005, investigated the following incidents: two for burglary, two for harassment, one school incident, one for shoplifting, three for theft of property, four for criminal mischief, one private property wreck, one harassing communications, one identity theft, one found property, two for domestic violence, and one property damage.

The following arrests were made: one for harassment, one for domestic violence, two for menacing, one for criminal trespassing, one for harassing communications, one for property damage, three for criminal mischief.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: one for speeding and one for no insurance.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:

**MONDAY, MAR. 14** - Domestic disturbance reported across the street from 3577 County Rd. 514 (12:29 a.m.); River stage - 7.38 feet (7:54 a.m.); Burglary reported at 979 Claxton Ave. (8:29 p.m.).

**TUESDAY, MAR. 15** - Fight in progress reported at 1621 Caroline St. (8:34 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 873 Cedar Lane Dr. (7:17 p.m.); Burglary reported at 1621 Caroline St. (8:34 p.m.).

**WEDNESDAY, MAR. 16** - River stage - 7.38 feet (7:54 a.m.); Burglary reported at 979 Claxton Ave. (8:29 p.m.).

**THURSDAY, MAR. 17** - River stage - 8.77 feet (7:42 a.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported at Beaver Dam Apts. (4:53 p.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported across from the park at Mulberry (6:59 p.m.).

**FRIDAY, MAR. 18** - River stage - 8.57 feet (7:30 a.m.); Domestic disturbance (verbal) reported at 1069 Sunset Blvd. (5:11 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1209 Farris Ave. (7:45 p.m.); Coffee County EMS (noise) reported to 1109 Morrow Ave. (7:46 p.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported on Smith Ave. (9:18 p.m.); Domestic disturbance reported at 404 County Rd. 411 (11:05 p.m.).

**SATURDAY, MAR. 19** - River stage - 7.97 feet (7:30 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 1069 Sunset Blvd. (5:11 p.m.); Coffee County EMS (noise) reported on Jackson St. (6:52 p.m.); Report of shots fired on Claxton Ave. in area of Mr. Henry's (8:24 p.m.); Disturbance (noise) reported at Mulberry (6:59 p.m.).

**SUNDAY, MAR. 20** - River stage - 7.58 feet (7:45 a.m.); Minor wreck reported at 1207 N. Claxton Ave. (8:07 p.m.).

**CALL CRIMESTOPPERS** **897-3881**

**TO REPORT A CRIME** **REMAIN ANONYMOUS**

## The Elba Clipper

USPS 171-080

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Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax  
6 months - \$11

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## THE ASSIGNMENT

CHAPTER FOUR  
by Linda M. Hodge

Jess had been in the attic many times through the years and never noticed anything indicative of her relationship with her mother. She couldn't imagine what her dad was going to show her.

"I don't think there's anything up here that I haven't seen before," she insisted. "I really don't know how this is going to help."

Her dad didn't say much in response. He just kept walking towards the back of the attic. Jess might have been confused, but he knew exactly what he was doing.

She soon realized her dad was walking towards an old medium-sized chest that had always sat in the back corner of the attic. She had often wondered about the contents of the chest, but it was locked with no key to be found.

"I promised your mom I would wait until she was old enough and seemed ready before opening this chest," he said as he stared at the dusty box.

He said his wife wanted the timing to be right when he opened the chest for their daughter.

"You asked a lot of questions about your mom when you were younger, but I decided you were too young to share the contents of the chest," he continued. "As you got older, you quit asking questions, and I wondered if I had waited too long. Now, I know we were waiting for this night."

Dad wasn't making a lot of sense, and Jess was growing impatient. What was the big deal about the contents of the chest, and how was this going to help with the assignment?

As he opened the lid of the chest, Jess noticed it was full of some sort of memorabilia. There was no way a bunch of old pictures and notes were going to help her understand a relationship to her mother.

Dad pulled only a single notebook from the chest before shutting the lid again.

"As I said before, your mother has always had a much larger impact on our lives than you realize. This notebook proves that."

It was full of all kinds of suggestions and ideas. There were opinions on how to handle this and that situation, and lists of things to do

handled by telephone. Most visits to the Social Security office will be conducted mainly by appointment in order to better serve the public. Appointments can be scheduled and questions answered by calling Social Security Administration at 1-800-772-1213, toll free service from 7 a.m. until 7 p.m. on business days.

If you need to reach the Dothan Social Security Office, use the toll-free number, 1-800-962-8726 for long distance callers or 671-9346 if you are within the local dialing area. Office hours in the Dothan office are 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except National holidays. INDICATES NO REPRESENTATIVE WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THESE DATES. If you are unable to handle your business by telephone and cannot come to the Dothan for a pre-scheduled appointment, a Social Security representative will be at the following places on the dates and at the time said. Enterprise will be from 9:30 a.m. until 11 a.m. at the City Hall on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday in April, May, and June. One will be in Elba the 4th Tuesday in April, May, and June.

Jess had never seen her dad like this. She had always thought he was so strong and unbreakable. Now, he was revealing a vulnerable side.

"Of course, she wanted to be as much a part of your life as any parent, but it just wasn't in the cards. When she realized there was no way she was going to overcome the illness, she began working on a project to ensure she would be a part of our lives. It started out as a reference for things she had wanted us to do together as a family. Then, she added the suggestions for handling various parenting situations. I really think she created the notebook to calm me, but it became a guideline for our lives. Her words and thoughts were very important to me. These were her hopes and dreams. Had it not been for the illness, we would have experienced those as a family. I desperately wanted to grant all her hopes and dreams."

Jess never realized her mother had been such a guiding force. She really didn't know how to react.

The remaining items in the chest are for you from your mom. I'm not sure what's inside, but your mother believed it would be important to you."

Author Linda M. Hodge is a native of Elba, Alabama. *The Assignment* is produced in partnership with this newspaper. Copyright 2005.

**Next Week: CHAPTER FIVE**  
A Change in Attitude

## FAX

SERVICE  
AVAILABLE AT  
THE ELBA  
CLIPPER

## BULLETIN BOARD

**PAUSING CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES** - The Elba Christian Church has a collection recovery service - Thurs. - 7 p.m. - Inn Baptist Church. Call 565-3970 or visit the website [www.5653970.org](http://www.5653970.org).

**CRIME & DRUG RECOVERY SUPPORT GROUP** - every Tuesday at 6 p.m. - Shiloh Baptist Church, Elba. Call 897-3037 for more information.

**SOCIAL SECURITY REP.** - Thursdays, 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30 Call 897-3037 for more information.

**ROTARY CLUB** - Tuesdays @ Noon-First Baptist Church

**ELBA CIVIC COUNCIL** - 2nd & 4th Mondays - 6 p.m.-City Hall

**WATER & ELECTRIC** - Tuesday evenings 2nd Monday 6 p.m. - City Hall

**ELBA MINISTERIAL ASSN.** - Tues. - 8 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church, Elba. Call 897-3037.

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP** - every Monday - 6:30 p.m.-Elba United Methodist Church, 1000 N. Davis St. Maggie Garrett Classroom.

**COFFEE COUNTY COMMISIONERS** - 2nd & 4th Monday - 8 a.m. - Elba City Hall

**ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD** - 2nd Tues. - 5:30 p.m. - Supt. Office

**AMERICAN LEGION** - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays - 7 p.m. - Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.

**MASONIC LODGE** - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays - 7 p.m. - Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.

**BAND BOOSTERS** - 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. - Band Room @ Elba High School

**VETERANS SERVICE** - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays - 7 p.m. - Mon-Fri - 10 a.m. to noon & 12:30-4:30 New Brooklyn @ Farm Center Complex 894-5853

**COFFEE COUNTY COON CLUB** - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays - 7 p.m. - Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.

**REPUBLICAN WOMEN** - 2nd Wed. Noontime Colony

**ELBA AIRPORT AUTHORITY** - 2nd Thursday at noon, Driscoll Hanger

**AARP** meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month

**ELBA ATHLETIC CLUB** - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays - 7 p.m. - Elba High boys locker room

**NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB** - Every 3rd Tuesday at 7 p.m.

**Elba Clipper** **in Education**

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**Elba Clipper** **in Education**

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# CHURCH NEWS

## Spring Break Finale service planned at Ino Baptist Church

Northern Heights Baptist Church and Ino Baptist Church will be hosting a Spring Break Finale service featuring nationally known youth communicator Neil McLendon and popular concert artist Kevin Dewberry. The service will be held on Saturday April 2, at 7 p.m. at Ino Baptist Church.

## St. Beulah presents "Praise For Power Service" March 25th

The St. Beulah Missionary Baptist Church presents a "Praise for Power Service" on Good Friday evening, March 25, 2005. Seven minister will present "The Seven Last Words" of Christ at St. Beulah. The program will be ready to Relay for Life American Cancer Society.

Anyone interested in a plate or a butt should contact Zelma Mobley at 897-2066 or Tammy Hussey at 897-3745.

**Victoria Baptist Church Relay For Life Bar-B-Que planned for March 26th**

Victoria Baptist Church Relay for Life Bar-B-Que will be Saturday, March 26, with pickup of plates and/or Boston butts at 10 a.m. or after.

Bar-B-Que plates will be \$6.50 each. Boston Butts will be

**Revival planned at God's Power House Evangelist Church**

God Power House Evangelist Church, located at 603 Smith Ave, will be in Revival March

The members of Westside Baptist Church invite you to attend

## Easter Sunrise Service on March 27, 2005, at 6:00 a.m.

followed by breakfast in the Activities Building.

9:00 a.m. Sunday School

## 10:00 a.m. the Children's Choir will present

**ALIVE, ALIVE,**

**Men and Boys**  
You are invited

to attend a **Beast Feast** on April 2, 2005

5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Westside Activities Building  
Call Westside Baptist Church at 897-2520

or First Baptist Church 897-2246

by March 28, to make a reservation.

**IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN**

**ABUNDANT LIFE CHURCH**  
SAMSON, ALA.  
Richard Carroll, Pastor

Morn. Worship.....10:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship.....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Night Service.....6:00 p.m.

**ALBERTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship.....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Night Service.....6:30 p.m.

**BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Baptist Carroll - Pastor  
Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship.....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Night Service.....6:30 p.m.

**BETHEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
Eddie Phillips-Cope, Pastor

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship.....6:00 p.m.  
Tue. Bible Study.....6:00 p.m.

**BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH**  
(Elba) Caldwell, Pastor

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship.....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Night Service.....6:30 p.m.

**BLUFF SPRINGS BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Tom Senn, Pastor

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship.....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 p.m.

**BROOKLYN BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Robert Davis, Pastor

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Even. Worship.....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Night Service.....6:30 p.m.

**CHESTNUT GROVE METHODIST**  
The Northgate Baptist Church  
Church Service.....9:00 a.m.  
2nd & 4th Sundays

**ELBA BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Pastor, Rev. Roger Miller

Sunday School.....9:00 a.m.  
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

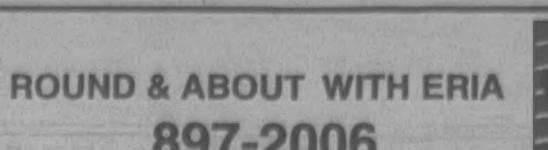
**CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST**  
Rev. A. Hill, Minister

Sunday School.....9:00 a.m.  
Morn. Worship.....12:00 noon  
1st, 3rd, 5th & 6th Sundays

**COVENANT COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Rev. Marti Gray, Pastor

Bible Study.....9:45 a.m.  
Worship.....10:00 a.m.  
Wed. Night (Youth Real Deal and Children's Activities).....6:00 p.m.

## ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA 897-2006



**SCRIPTURE: JOHN 20:31**  
566-1035, Adean Sims at (334) 493-7974, Beth Williams at (334) 673-2495, Catherine Burks at (334) 493-7346, or Peggy Edwards at (334) 493-8178.

## \*\*\*THINKING OF YOU, JOHN 20:31

The Edwards Family; Lizzie Tyson, Annie Pearl Carpenter, C.W. Williams, Rev. Henry Ewing, Jr., Lela Tyson, Rev. E. Freaney, Rev. Joyce Johnson

## \*\*\*MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Melanie Shipman - March 24th

Rev. Joe Smith, Jr. - March 24th

Tawanna Rodgers - March 24th

Jamie Starks - March 24th

O.B. Daniel - March 26th

Shirley Velvick - March 27th

Ciscero Henderson - March 28th

(In memory of) Grover Belcher - March 28th

(In memory of) Adue Underwood - March 29th

Horace Fritchard - Saint Paul A.M.E. of Ozark, Ala. - March 30th

## \*\*\*ANNUAL FAMILY & FRIENDS DAY

The annual family and friends day is to be held at the

Bethelene Baptist Church of Elba, Ala. on March 27, 2005 at 3:00 p.m.

The guest speaker will be Rev. Horace Fritchard of Saint Paul A.M.E. of Ozark, Ala.

## \*\*\*REVIVAL AT MT. CALVARY

Rev. Ronald Haynes, pastor of St. Luke A.M.E. of Louisville, Ala. will sing Songs of Praise and bring the message for Revival Services at Mount Calvary Baptist Church from March 23 - 25, 2005 at 7:15 p.m.

In what year did the first formal African American ballet troupe debut in New York? Answer: 1937

Did you know? B.B. King of the Blues averages 300 concert dates a year.

Today is a good day! Be grateful.

Then on the third day as He had told them. He was not found in the tomb.

**Mark 16:1-7**

16:1 When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body. 2 Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

4 But when they looked up, they saw the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away. 5 As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.

6 "Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. 7 But go, tell His disciples and Peter. He is going ahead of you to Galilee. There you will see him, just as I told you."

(from New International Version)

It took a while for this resurrection to sink in. Eventually the world would know Jesus has risen. His kingdom was not of this world but could be part of Heaven by knowing He is the Christ. Salvation came to us by His perfect sacrifice. His blood was shed so we could receive forgiveness. He became our hope our peace and our strength. Jesus changed the world forever.

We have a glorious Savior who paid a price we owed and a debt we could not pay. Praise the name of Jesus. What would have happened if He had not paid on the hill called Golgotha? God loved us so much He gave His Son to us of all. Remember to praise Jesus and thank Him. We will glorify His name and worship The Lord as our king.

He did it all. He made everything possible. Jesus is Lord. Praise His Holy Name.

## Basin Baptist Church list Easter schedule of events

The Basin Baptist Church family invites everyone to celebrate Easter at the church.

Services will begin Good

Friday, March 25, with a showing of "The Passion of Christ" at 6:30 p.m. A nursery will be provided.

There will be an early morning service at 7 a.m. on Easter Sunday, March 27, followed by breakfast at 8 a.m.

## \*\*\*29TH ANNIVERSARY OF SOUL GOSPEL SINGERS

The 29th Anniversary of the Soul Gospel Singers will be held Sunday, April 3, 2005 at 2:30 p.m. This will take place at the Southeast District Convention Building on County Road 377, Elba (near Danley's Crossroads).

All groups, choirs, and soloists are welcome to participate and everyone is invited to attend and help lift the name of Jesus through songs. For more information contact Sabrina Thomas at 566-1035 or Catherine Burks at 493-7346.

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## Annual Southeast District Laymen's Wash to be held

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# SCHOOLS



## Tiger Tales

Editors: Casey Medlock & Kayla Kelley

### Did You Know?...

by Kayla Kelley

The beginnings of Spring Break may surprise you. Parents of today are not the only ones who have spent endless hours worrying where their teenagers are and what they are doing.

There is something about spring that urges young people to get out, relax and rejuvenate. It has been true ever since Socrates proposed a rite to welcome spring and all the young people to vent their energy.

In the Middle Ages, it took armed bands of monks to stop the spring celebrations. But in spite of many objectives, spring break went on through modern times.

Other than Mardi Gras in New Orleans, America never

### Co-Op Spotlight

by Brittney Clark



This week's Co-Op Spotlight is **Kayla Gentry**. She is the 18-year-old daughter of Winona Gentry.

Kayla is currently employed at the Elba Marketplace, where she works in the deli. She has been working at the Marketplace for one year and nine months.

Kayla's future plans include going to college to become very successful. Kayla is described as being a very nice person with a big heart.

Congratulations, Kayla, for being this week's Co-Op Spotlight!



Scenes from the Scholastic Book Fair held at Elba Elementary School



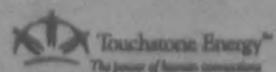
**The cost of electricity hasn't changed that much in the past 20 years.**

It's easy to think that because your power bill has increased in the past 20 years, it is the cost of electricity that has escalated. But when you look closely, you see the increase in the amount of electricity we use each day. With the increase of electrical appliances in the home, energy usage has grown.

Call your local electric system to see how you can help conserve energy.

We care about our member owners.

**ELBA WATER & ELECTRIC DEPT.**  
Contact: James E. Grimes  
@ Ph. No. 897-2333



The power of human resources

## EHS needs votes for Play of the Year

by Judson Vaughan

It is obviously not November, but your votes are still needed. As many of you know, and for those who do not, Elba High won the Play of the Week and Month on our daily morning show Channel One. The play happened during last October's Elba vs. Houston Academy football game when a kickoff

was returned for a touchdown by our very own junior, Hunter McGuire, with assistance from the impressive offensive line.

It was sent in by Coach Wynn Grimes and immediately was a hit.

Now it is time for the community's help.

The play is in the running for Play of the Year. To vote, go to [www.channelone.com](http://www.channelone.com) and click

on sports and from there, go to Play of the Year. Your votes will be greatly appreciated and the reward will be handsome.

First prize will be a spot in a national Gatorade commercial, so with that said the voting

should begin.

The competition is stiff but with your help we can put this fair city back on the map for something other than a natural disaster.

Just think, Elba on national television, anything is possible.

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# SPORTS

## Views From.... THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

The Mularz girls saw their annual spring break trek to the beach end last week when we all decided to head down to Mobile for a visit with Grandma. While the girls always enjoyed their beach trips and their rides up and down the "strip," the chance to visit their Grandma over the Easter weekend easily won their choice of things to do. Maybe the girls are really growing up after all!

### FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH....

\*\*\* The Elba Tigers saw their record move to 4-5 last week (1-1 in area play) after a win over Highland Home and a loss to Geneva County. The win over the Flying Squadron was a sweet one for the Tigers after a 13-2 loss at Highland Home earlier in the season, and a bright spot in the win was the pitching of sophomore Steven Driggers. Driggers set down the Highland Home batters in order in the seven innings he pitched, and allowed only three earned runs as he limited the hard-hitting Squadron to only five hits.

The youthful Tiger pitcher did allow seven free passes on five walks and two hit batters, but he picked up the win and solidified his spot as the #2 starter in the Elba rotation. The Tigers matched Geneva in the win in their last week's area loss to the Bulldogs, but now came up with the big win, right here and standing eight runners on base as they were shut-out for only the second time this season. The key to the shut-out was the fact 11 Tiger batters struck out, including six strike-outs with runners on base. The seven hits was a sign the Tigers have begun to swing the bats better. However, getting the hits at the right time is more important than just getting hits, and when the Tigers can combine their hitting with some key hits, the runs will score and wins will add up.

\*\*\* The Elba Lady Tigers outscored Geneva County 8-7 last week to enter spring break with a 5-6 record. The Lady Tigers got off to a slow 0-4 start that had the coaches, players and fans wondering what was wrong. However, since that slow start the Lady Tigers have won five of their next seven games, with the only losses to 2A power Flomaton and 4A Geneva. Elba will need to improve its productivity at the plate and score more runs if the wins are to continue to come, and must also show up a leaky defense that at times helps its opponents score runs. The Lady Tigers have one of the state's top pitchers in Stephanie Baxley and a group of girls that play hard every time they field. So, maybe soon the girls will put it all together and make some noise.

\*\*\* The Alabama High School Athletic Association was in the news last week for a number of reasons, and much of the news was of interest to coaches, players and sports fans all across the state. One of the biggest changes was the move to allow high schools seven days of competition per sport during the summer months. In the case of high school football teams were to a camp, but under the new rule the teams may extend a camp and still have days left to compete in some type of competition. The only catch is that it will be helmets, which means many schools will now host "sevens or seven" competition to give their teams the chance to work on both offense and defense. A change that all baseball coaches were happy to see was one that will allow players to participate in a throwing program three weeks prior to the beginning of practice. No bats will be allowed at the work-outs, but pitchers and other players will get the opportunity to get their arms in shape before actual practice begins. A change that all football fans will notice next season was one that mandated all high school football games will begin at 7:00 PM. Last season many teams kicked off at 7:00, while most waited and started the games at 7:30. The earlier starting times will get the players, band members, cheerleaders and fans home a little earlier. However, it will also distract those same people having to leave earlier to make the kickoff. I think the time should have been left up to the schools, but then again it is rare for the fans to be considered when changes are made.

\*\*\* The AHSA mailed out its bulletin recently and inside was revealed the fact that a total of 28 schools across the state had been fined a total of \$7,550 for various rule violations. Area schools that drew the wrath of the state included Andalusia, for an altercation in which players left the sidelines; Daleville, for using an ineligible player in football; and Arton, for using two ineligible players. I guess there is little doubt the state really does keep an eye on the schools, and hits them where it hurts the most - in the checkbook!

\*\*\* In closing.... I entered a pool in the NCAAA tournament sponsored by Sports Illustrated that would pay out \$1 million to anyone that could pick the winners of all 63 games and even though I knew it was a long shot, I took a little time studying the brackets and made my picks. Well after the first four games were played my chance had gone by the board and now the best I can hope for is a consolation prize of a vacation somewhere in Mexico. I am not making vacation plans, either.

**DIXIE BASEBALL & SOFTBALL  
SEASON OPENS APRIL 4**

**GET READY FOR SOME EXCITING  
ACTION - ATTEND A GAME AND  
LET'EM HEAR YOU CHEER!**

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
We, Michael Lindsey & Denise Stewart, dba  
Mulberry Community Grocer, have made application to  
the City of Elba for a 050 - Retail Beer and 070 - Retail  
Wine off premises consumption, at this location, 1501  
Martin Luther King Drive, Elba, Alabama.

A public hearing will be held by the Chamber in their regular meeting in the Council Chamber in City Hall at 5:30 p.m., Monday, March 28, 2005.

NOTICE: This public hearing has been postponed until 5:30 p.m., Monday, April 11, 2005.

**STEWART LAWN CARE**  
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### Elba turns back late rally

## Tigers shoot down Squadron 10-9

The Elba Tigers returned to their winning ways last Tuesday afternoon with an exciting 10-9 victory over the Highland Home Flying Squadron, in Elba.

Elba sophomore pitcher Steven Driggers set down the Squadron in order the opening two innings, while the Tiger batters also came ready to play as they collected five hits over the opening two innings and plated five runs to jump out to an early 5-0 lead.

Highland Home combined a scoring opportunity in the bottom of the first as LaRay Williams led off the inning with a single, stole second and moved to third on a passed ball. Marquize Tyson was hit by a pitch, put runners on first and third with one out. However, the next two Tiger batters stepped up in the early scoring chance went by the board when the next batter grounded out to second base.

The second inning was a different story for the Tigers as they combined four hits with one walk and one Highland Home error to grab a 5-0 advantage. Chase Boutwell opened the inning with a single, but appeared to be stuck on first after the next two batters struck out. An error off the bat of Brad Sullivan kept the inning alive, while a walk to LaRay Williams loaded the bases with two outs. The Tigers got on the score板 when Marquize Tyson delivered an RBI single to drive in Boutwell, and the Tigers then moved on top 4-0 when Clark Skinner ripped a bases-loaded triple. Skinner scored 2 hits and scored 2 runs, Adam Spicer and Aaron Harrelson reached on a single and a double, respectively.

Elba Tiger JV pitcher Don Rhoades delivers a pitch in recent junior varsity action. Rhoades was the Tigers' #1 pitcher and helped lead Elba to 4 wins both on the mound and at the plate.



Elba Tiger JV pitcher Don Rhoades delivers a pitch in recent junior varsity action. Rhoades was the Tigers' #1 pitcher and helped lead Elba to 4 wins both on the mound and at the plate.

(Photo by Laura Baxley)

## High School BASEBALL \* SOFTBALL DIAMOND DUST

### \*\* BASEBALL \*\*

New Brockton posts 3-1 win over Zion Chapel

The New Brockton Gamecocks continued their winning ways last Monday morning by downing the Zion Chapel Rebels 3-1, at Zion Chapel. Heath Parker handcuffed the Rebels on 5 hits and struck out 7 batters to get the win on the mound, while Josh Smith was saddled with the loss despite allowing only 4 hits and striking out 13 batters. Mark Windham ripped a two-run homer and Drew Donaldson added an RBI double to spark the Gamecocks at the plate, while Brandon Rial had 3 hits to lead the Rebels and Josh Smith added 2 hits.

Elba failed to score in the bottom of the inning and carried the slim 3-4 lead into the bottom of the fourth.

**Elba blanked in 6-0 area loss to Geneva County**

The Elba Tigers traveled to Hartford Thursday afternoon for a key Area 3 battle against the Geneva County Bulldogs and won 6-0. The Tigers had one out after singles by LaRay Williams and Clark Skinner, only to come away empty-handed as the next two Tiger batters went down swinging.

The Tigers had a chance to grab the lead in the top of the fourth when the next two Tiger batters struck out, and Elba was forced to settle for the 6-0 loss.

Clark Skinner and Adam Spicer both had 2 hits lead Elba at the plate while LaRay Williams, Chase Boutwell and Brad Sullivan all added 1 hit. Clark Skinner pitched six innings to absorb the loss on the mound and allowed six runs (four earned runs) on seven hits, one walk and one hit batter, while striking out seven batters.

Elba saw another scoring opportunity go by the board in the top of the third after a lead-off single by Brad Sullivan failed to produce a run, then also failed to score in the fourth despite a lead-off double by Adam Spicer.

Geneva County bunched three hits together in the bottom of the fourth to increase its lead to 3-0, then combined two hits with an Elba error in the bottom of the fifth to up its lead to 5-0 after five innings of play.

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222-6157 • Andalusia, AL  
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• Vinyl Siding Eave Overhanging  
• Carport & Patio Covers  
  
Lawn & Shrub Care  
Pruning Edging  
  
Landscaping Mowing  
Leaf and Debris Removal  
Commercial & Residential Areas  
  
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**Brady Schwab**, a factory trained representative from Oticon (a manufacturer of the most advanced hearing instruments available) will be attending the Open House. He will be available to tell you about today's advances in digital hearing aids and how they can benefit you.

**Physicians Hearing Center**  
Call 673-7399 TODAY  
Limited Appointment Times Available

**Open House**  
April 6th - 8th, 2005  
8am - 5pm

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Miles, Very Sharp, \$4,500. Call  
997-8441. 3-24-1c**DRIVERS AGREEMENT**The County of Elba, Alabama  
is seeking written quotations from  
interested parties for seasonal flying  
for aerial photography on Coffey  
County and several other counties.  
The bids must be made ready  
to accept camera equipment  
furnished by the FSA Office. Pilot  
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Quotations will be accepted through  
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months cond. call Sunday or any  
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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Miss Miller chosen as finalist in the National American Miss Alabama Pageant

Miss Kayla Ann Miller, age 15, has been chosen as a State Finalist in the National American Miss Alabama Pageant to be held May 30, 2005 at the beautiful Sheraton Hotel in Birmingham, Ala. The pageant is held for girls ages 13 through 15.

The winner of the pageant will receive a \$1,000 cash award, the official crown and banner, a bouquet of roses, and air transportation to compete in the national pageant at Disneyland in California. Pageants are held for girls four to eighteen, in five age groups.

The National American Miss pageants are dedicated to celebrating America's greatness and



Miss Kayla Ann Miller

encouraging its future leaders. Each year, the pageant awards thousands in scholarships and prizes to recognize and assist in the development of young women nationwide. All activi-

ties are age-appropriate and family-oriented.

Families interested in receiving

## Ingestion of cigarettes among small children has toxic effects

In recognition of National Poison Prevention Week, March 20-26, 2005, the Alabama Department of Public Health, Tobacco Prevention and Control Division is alerting the public about ways to prevent childhood poisoning. Cigarettes and Cigarette butts may poison children who ingest them.

Adults who smoke in the home may not be aware of the danger of cigarettes and cigarette butts to children. Children aged 6-24 months old are actively exploring their environment and often put things into their mouths. It is very important that parents and caregivers store tobacco products out of the reach of children. "Most children who ingest tobacco products will not smoke the cigarette, but they will light it, and children are more likely to light cigarettes, matches, and cigarette lighters, thereby reducing fires started by children—the leading cause of fire-related deaths among children aged less than 5 years."

While minor toxic clinical effects may occur such as vomiting, nausea, lethargy, gagging, and a pale or flushed appearance, severe toxicity among

children who ingested cigarettes, cigarette butts, or smoke, include depressed respiration, cardiac arrhythmia, and convulsion. If ingestion does occur, a poison-control center should be consulted to assess the risk for serious toxicity and determine treatment.

In addition to preventing nicotine poisoning, avoid the use of tobacco products in the presence of children should decrease the risks of infections from respiratory diseases in children; the risk that children will smoke in the future, and children's exposure to lighted cigarettes, matches, and cigarette lighters, thereby reducing fires started by children—the leading cause of fire-related deaths among children aged less than 5 years.

Parents and guardians who want to quit should seek health care advice or call 334-566-2860 for smoking cessation information and referrals.

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF

NOTICE is hereby given that a bill substantially as follows will be introduced in the 2005 Regular Session of the Legislature of Alabama and application for its passage and enactment will be made.

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Relating to Coffee and Pike Counties and the Twelfth Judicial Circuit; providing for the establishment of a pretrial diversion program.

### BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

discretionary powers endowed by common law and provided for by state laws and acts of this state or powers of discretion otherwise provided by law. The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit shall be retained.

(c) The pretrial diversion program shall be under the direction of the district attorney and the district attorney may contract with any agency, person, or corporation for services rendered in this act. The district attorney may employ necessary persons to accomplish this act and these persons shall serve the purpose of the district attorney.

Section 2. For the purposes of this act, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(1) DISTRICT ATTORNEY. The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, State of Alabama or any of her or his staff.

(2) LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER. Any person who is employed by an agency or department of state to protect people. This may include, but is not limited to, police personnel, sheriff personnel, members of the Department of Human Resources, personnel, parole and probation personnel, community corrections office personnel, and court referral agency personnel who are in the State of Alabama or located elsewhere.

(3) OFFENDER. Any person charged with a crime as defined by the Code of Alabama 1975, which was allegedly committed in the jurisdiction of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, State of Alabama.

(4) SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY. As that term is defined in Section 12-1-2(14), Code of Alabama 1975.

Section 3. (a) A criminal offense committed in this subsection whose jurisdiction is in the circuit or county court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit may apply to the District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit for admission into the pretrial diversion program.

(b) A person charged with any of the following offenses may apply for admission into the pretrial diversion program:

(1) A traffic offense other than, driving under the influence (DUI).

(2) A property offense.

(3) An offense wherein the victim did not receive serious physical injury.

(4) An offense in which the victim was not a child under 14 years of age, a law enforcement officer, a school official, or a correctional officer.

(5) A misdemeanor other than one specifically excluded in this section.

(6) A violation classified

and in an amount to be determined by the district attorney taking into account circumstances of the offender and victim.

(b) The district attorney's pretrial diversion program records, along with the records relating to pretrial diversion program admission, shall be maintained in a secure manner.

(c) Any offense involving the death of a child or an elderly person.

(d) Any sex offense.

(e) Any offense involving serious injury to a person or an elderly person.

(f) Any offense involving death.

(7) Driving under the influence (DUI).

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Four young ladies received Miss Elba crowns Saturday, March 5



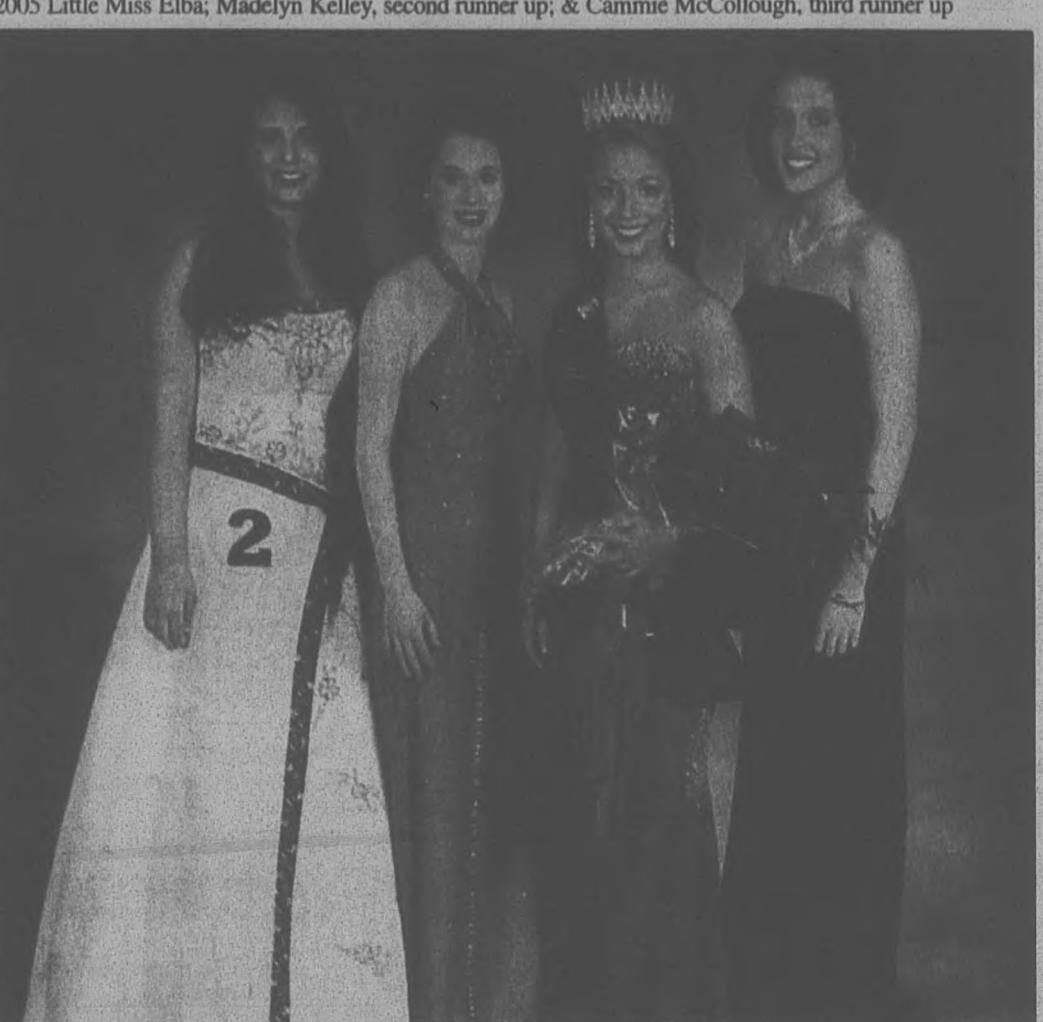
FUTURE LITTLE MISS (from left)...Kurstin Jones, second runner up; Brayton Martin, 2005 Future Little Miss Elba; and Haley Parrish, first runner up.



LITTLE MISS (from left)...Alex Dawson, fourth runner up; Katlyn Grogg, first runner up; Caitlin Bradshaw, 2005 Little Miss Elba; Madelyn Kelley, second runner up; & Cammie McCollough, third runner up.



JUNIOR MISS (from left)...Brianna Bailey, first runner up; Christina Bryant, 2005 Junior Miss Elba; and Haley Stinson, second runner up.



MISS ELBA (from left)...Ariann Bowers, third runner up; Casey Medlock, first runner up; Kendall Stinson, 2005 Miss Elba; and Whitney Anderson, second runner up.

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**1999 JEEP WRANGLER SPORT - AT-6**  
- Just Right For Summer - 2 To Choose From

**2004 NISSAN MAXIMA SE - Sharp**  
- Must See

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**2005 CHEVY EX CAB LT** - 4 X 2 - Loaded - Local Trade - Like New

**2004 CHEVY TAHOE Z 71** - Fully Loaded - Leather - Moon Roof - 4WD - Local Trade

**2002 HONDA ACCORD** - Very Clean

**2004 IMPALA SEDAN** - 4 To Choose From

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Youngsters enjoy Easter egg hunt at Elba UMC

Bret Flowers celebrates fourth birthday

Clark Skinner pitches Elba Tigers to victory

# The Elba Clipper

Volume 108, Number 42 50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, March 31, 2005

1 Section, 12 Pages

Effective with next monthly billing  
Elba W & E Board approves slight increase in water rates

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba Water and Electric Board met Monday evening and voted unanimously for a modest raise in water rates effective with the next monthly billing. Elba water rates were last increased in January of 2003. Rural water rates were last increased in April 2001.

Under the new schedule the minimum water bill for the first 2,500 gallons will be \$8.50. That is up 50¢.

The next 2,500 gallons will cost \$3.25 per 1,000 gallons, up from \$3.00. The next 3,000 gallons go up only 20¢ per thousand gallons.

All usages over one million gallons will go up on five cents per thousand gallons.

Rural water rates were also increased with the first 2,500 gallons going up from \$10.15 to \$10.50. The second 1,000 gallons will cost \$3.75 per thousand, up from \$3.50. All monthly water usage over 20,000 gallons will cost \$2.40, up from \$2.30.

During Elba City Council meeting

**City Clerk indicates Tiger Drive bridge should reopen this week**

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council re-appointed Herby McCall to the Elba Library Board in their Monday night meeting. The council also approved a highway department resolution concerning the downtown redevelopment project.

City Clerk Wayne Grantham told council members that the Tiger Drive bridge should be reopened this week. Erosion repair work has been completed on the concrete bridge that connects the Elba schools with Taylor Mill Road.

Grantham also announced there will be another "Clean Up Friday" this week. Assisting this effort are the residents of the Elba Work Release Center.

A workshop for the city council members was scheduled for April 4th at 5:30 p.m.

Council member Tom Hooks

reported a water drain problem on Gray Street. The clerk agreed to have the matter checked into within a few days.

Mayor James Grimes acknowledged there was a lot of water hitting the ground during the weekend. He said City crews were out throughout the weekend checking for potential problems. He added it was a good trial run on the levee repairs and trial run on the needed modifications were noted and had already been addressed with the levee contractor and with the Corp. of Engineers. A supervisor's meeting on Monday morning was held to critique the various aspects of storm response by all city departments.

A workshop for the city council members was scheduled for April 4th at 5:30 p.m.

Commissioner Tom Hooks

is in the process of reviewing all county roads.

He said county roads 437, 474 and 520 (a dirt road) remained closed Monday morning. During the meeting, Tindell said County Road 474 was closed due to the rising river; however, he said the river was expected to crest later in the day which would allow the road to reopen once the river level began dropping.

Commissioner asked county

EMA director John Tallas to review the bids and make recommendations for approval.

With Tallas' recommendation, commissioners approved a bid for two generators plus installation from Hastings Power Systems for \$14,226. They also approved a bid from S & P Communications for the emergency communications radio tower for \$47,973.87.

As for the outdoor warning sirens, this bid went to McCord Communications Corporation. Commissioners approved the bid as written at \$12,856 for the sirens or \$16,506 with installation. Tallas said the county has the option of whether or not to use the installation of the company. He said the county has installed its own sirens in the past.

Commissioners also approved a bid for a computerized radio dispatch console for Enterprise from S & P Communications.

Commissioner Tom Grimes expressed a desire for the commission to show support for the proposed four-laning of Highway 167.

"Our county is really beginning to grow," he said. "Existing businesses are growing and adding jobs. We want to be prepared for this growth."

He said the county's unemployment rate is running 4.9 percent which means things are progressing very well for Coffee County.

Grimes reminded everyone of a recent strategic plan that supported the four-laning of Highway 167 from Troy to the

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Two Elba residents honored for heroic measures

Elba residents Wesley DeVane and Johnny Senn put it all on the line Friday night, Nov. 12, 2004 to save the life of another human being.

That life belonged to 12-year-old Justin Andrew Wilks of Opp, and he was present earlier this week at the Elba City Council meeting when DeVane and Senn each received a Certificate of Appreciation for their heroic efforts.

The certificates, signed by Alabama Governor Bob Riley, indicated the following: "On behalf of the citizens of Alabama, it is my privilege to award this certificate for your outstanding efforts to save the lives of others while endangering your own life. Your kindness and patriotism will not soon be forgotten and is to be commended and recognized. May I take this opportunity to offer my sincere appreciation to you and my best wishes for a future blessed with good health and much happiness."

DeVane is a member of the Elba Volunteer Fire Department and Senn is an Alabama State Trooper.

The two men were traveling home to Elba with their wives following a high school football game on the evening of Nov. 12th when they realized an accident had occurred on Alabama Highway 87 just inside the Pike County line.

Once they arrived on scene, DeVane and Senn found the results of a three-vehicle accident. They also found Wilks trapped inside his vehicle.

According to reports, another vehicle had crossed lanes and collided head-on with the truck driven by Wilks. The force of the collision caused Wilks' vehicle to ignite, and DeVane and Senn worked to remove him from the cab of his truck before the fire reached him. Moments after they removed Wilks from the vehicle, an explosion occurred.



From left, Wesley DeVane, Justin Andrew Wilks and Johnny Senn

Commission approves resolution to support four-laning of Highway 167

by Linda Hodge, Editor

After a weekend of storms and heavy rains, Coffee County officials began the week wondering how everyone and everything endured the weather.

County engineer Randy Tindell told Coffee County Commissioners Monday March 28, during the regular bimonthly meeting, that his department was

in the process of reviewing all county roads.

He said county roads 437, 474 and 520 (a dirt road) remained closed Monday morning. During the meeting, Tindell said County Road 474 was closed due to the rising river; however, he said the river was expected to crest later in the day which would allow the road to reopen once the river level began dropping.

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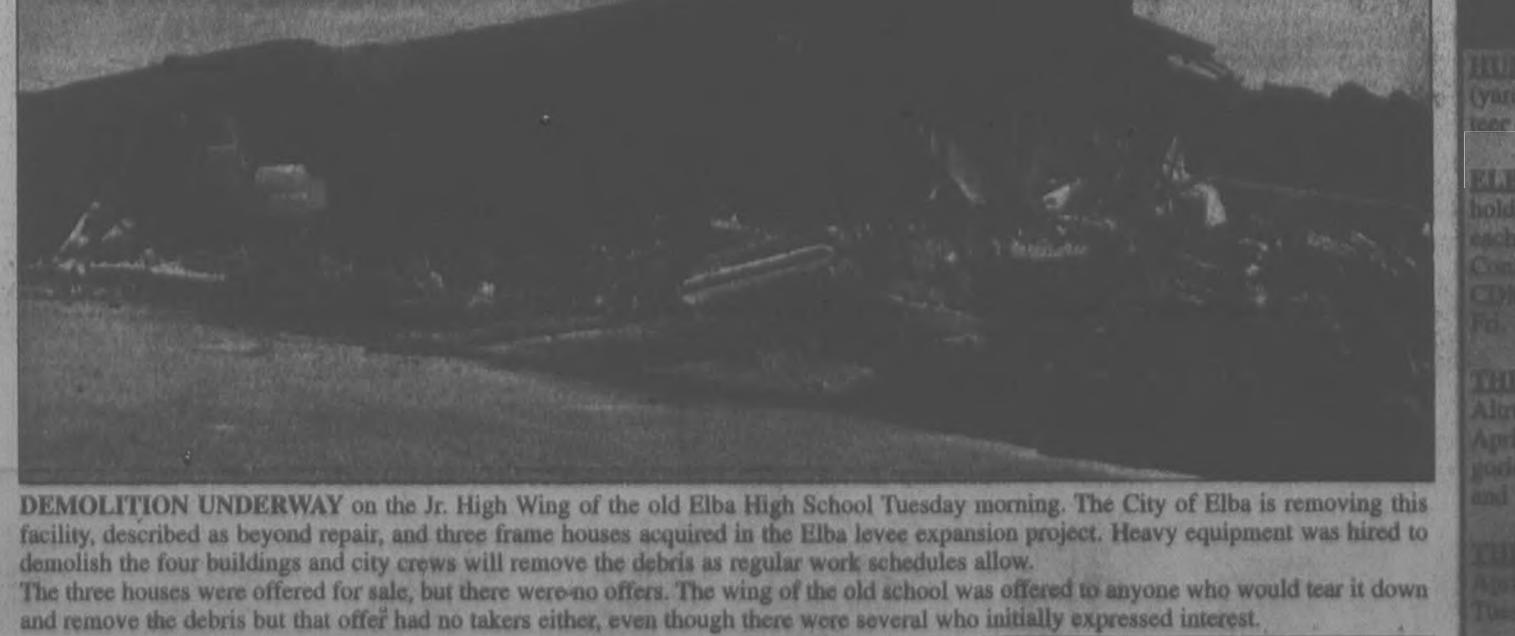
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FALLING FROM THE SKY—Many local residents found more than just rain falling from the sky late Saturday afternoon, March 26, when a round of thunderstorms wreaked havoc on the area. Reports of hail storms surfaced all over Southeast Alabama with residents finding themselves dodging anything from nickel to golf ball-sized hail. One Elba resident captured the storm on camera (shown above) as the hail looked almost like snow in the yard of green grass. While no damage was reported here, there were reports of various structure damage caused by a hail storm in the Zion Chapel community.

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## Area Happenings



**DEMOLITION UNDERWAY** on the Jr. High Wing of the old Elba High School Tuesday morning. The City of Elba is removing this facility, described as beyond repair, and three frame houses acquired in the Elba levee expansion project. Heavy equipment was hired to demolish the four buildings and city crews will remove the debris as regular work schedules allow.

The three houses were offered for sale, but there were no offers. The wing of the old school was offered to anyone who would tear it down and remove the debris but that offer had no takers either, even though there were several who initially expressed interest.

**HUMAN RESOURCES WILL HAVE CLEAN-UP DAY** (continued) Saturday, April 2, 2005 at 8 a.m. anyone willing to volunteer can call 897-2667. In case of rain, the will reschedule.

**ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL AND NURSING HOME** will hold meetings of the Elba Pre-Post Gastric Bypass Support Group each Tuesday of the month, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Hospital Conference Room. For more information contact Cindy Murphy, CPTP at 334/697-7227, Ext. 297, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Mon.

**THE 2005 MISS ZION CHAPEL PAGEANTS**, sponsored by Altrusa International Inc. of Jack, Ala., will be held Saturday, April 9, at 6 p.m. at the Zion Chapel auditorium. The great pageant will include Future Little Miss, Little Miss, Junior Miss and Miss Zion Chapel.

**ELBA PUBLIC LIBRARY** needs books for the book sale April 11-16 during regular hours: Monday, Friday 8:00-5:00; Tuesday, Thursday 9:00-4:00; Wednesday, Saturday 9:00-12:00.